GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:551
ANSWERED ON:09.07.2004
PAKISTANI AND BANGLADESHI IN VOTERS LIST
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that a number of Pakistani and Bangladeshi nationals have been included in the voters` list in various States;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to strike out their names from the List;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ)

(a) & (c): The Election Commission of India has informed that only Indian citizens are eligible for inclusion in the electoral roll. However, sometimes, during house-to-house enumeration or during the period of filing claims and objections, names of some persons find their way into the electoral rolls due to false information provided by the applicants. The Commission has provided a Statement, which is laid on the Table of the House, containing the details of cases of Bangladeshis only, who have been wrongfully included in the electoral rolls in the States of Assam, Maharashtra, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and the National Capital Territory of Delhi. The Commission has, however, stated that it does not have data of such cases available with it with regard to the existing electoral rolls of 2004.

(b) The Commission has decided to revise electoral rolls with 01-01-2005 as qualifying date in which inclusion of new electors and deletion of ineligible names in the roll shall be done as per the existing law. This exercise may also result in deletion of names that might have been included in the roll by mistake.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) AND (c) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.551 FOR ANSWER ON 9.07.2004

STATEMENT SHOWING SPECIFIC CASES OF REGISTRATION OF FOREIGNERS (BANGLADESHI) REPORTED BY THE STATES/UTS

a) ASSAM

In 126 Assembly Constituencies of the State 2, 00930 cases of doubtful nationality were identified and referred to competent authority. Out of these, as of now in case of 2749 cases citizenship status have been confirmed and accepted by the Competent Authority, 502 cases have been declared as illegal migrants and 197679 cases are pending with Competent Authority.

b) MAHARASHTRA

The C.I.D. Branch of Mumbai Police reported to the DEO, Mumbai Suburban that six Bangladesh nationals were included in the electoral rolls of 39-Amdi and 49-Kurla Assembly Constituency in Mumbai Suburban District. (Five and one respectively). The Electoral Registration Officers of above Constituencies have initiated action on the basis of police report under rule 21 of R.E. Rule 1960 to enquire the status of their citizenship. Their names will be deleted from the rolls if they are proved to be Bangladesh nationals after enquiry.

The DEO, Raigad has reported that one elector named Shri Patware Gulab Mustafa Fajumuddin has been included in the electoral rolls of 13-Shriwardhan Assembly Constituency since 1995. The police has filed case in the Court of JMFC, Shriwardhan against 9 Bangladesh nationals in June 2001 for unauthorise stay in India. Out of these, the name of only one Bangladeshi national viz. Shri Patware Gulab Mustafa Fajmuddin has been found to be enrolled in the roll of 13-Shriwardhan AC. The Hon`ble Court has ordered to handover eight Bangaldeshies excluding Patware Gulab Mustafa Fajmuddin to the BSF, Calcutta. Accordingly, the Police handed over the eight Bangladeshi on 17th December, 2001. The Hon. Court has released Shri Patware Gulab Mustafa Fajmuddin on bail

and the matter is pending trial.

c) ORISSA

After enquiry, 370 names of Bangladeshi were found in the Electoral Roll of 2002 and the same have been deleted. Similarly, names of 197 Bangaladesis were found in Electoral Rolls of 2003 for which action is being taken to delete their names. Besides 2 names of Bangladeshi are identified in the Electoral Rolls of 2003 of 135-Sundragarh A.C. which are not deleted as the same are subjudice in the Hon`ble court of Orissa.

d) Uttar Pradesh

District Election Officers Faizabad, Raibareli and Jhansi have reported that 14, 3 and 1 name respectively of Bangladesh nationals were enrolled in the rolls of 2002. These names have been deleted from the rolls of 2002.

e) NCT of Delhi

There are few names of Bangladeshis found to exist in the Electoral Rolls. Election Deptt. of Govt. of NCT of Delhi has received lists of Bangaladeshi migrants from its Home Deptt. for taking necessary action for the deletion of their names (if exist) from the Electoral roll of the concerned assembly constituency in NCT of Delhi. The list of Bangladeshi migrants were sent to concerned Electoral Registration Officers for taking further necessary action to delete the names from the Electoral Roll. As per the information received from the concerned Electoral Registration Officers of Assembly Constituencies in NCT of Delhi, they have so far deleted 75 names appearing in the rolls. This has now become a routine process i.e. the receipt of the lists of Bangladeshi migrants and inquiry/deletion. Therefore, the action of enquiry etc. is still under progress into some lists of Bangladeshi migrants at the offices of Electoral Registration Officers.